

R E V I E W.

Tuesday, November 25. 1712.

Have been so interrupted in giving my Opinion of the *State of the War*, that I have not yet been able to come to the *State of the Peace*—The War seems to be drawing to an End; what Peace shall be, that shall close it, I know not, neither can I pretend to determine. If my *Highlander* says true, and really that Inhabitant of *Terra Incognita* has made many a shrewd guess, this Month will conclude the Peace: You have that really wonderful Book by you, if you have time to look into it, will find, for November, he is thus.

A seeming Conclusion of the Peace, is now the Effect of a long Treaty; *France* makes larger Concessions, and the Influence of other Princes assist, and the Emperor, tho' not able to Effect all his Designs, seems more flexible to Conditions; yet the many Interests which the several Parties pursue in this War are not so easily to be adjusted, as that a full Conclusion can be made.

Vid. Highland Prophecy, pag. 14.

This is really as exact a State of the Peace, tho' hinted so Months ago, as if it had been spoken just now upon the Spot—*France* will certainly make larger Concessions, if he sees a View of Peace, and especially, if he sees the Power he now makes his Court to, assist to require it, I mean the Queen. As to the Terms of Peace, there seems no room to debate them on one side or other now; every one shows my Notions of Peace; That, which Side soever made Peace, my Schemes lay another Way; and I am plain, that I like none of the kinds of Peace ever saw propos'd: One Side would give *Spain* to the Emperor, another Side to *France*, and a Third, a Branch of the House of *Bourbon*; for my part, I always said, I would have given it to none of them, but would have had the Protestant Powers of *Europe* so strengthened, out of it, as that what was made, should have made neither Side too great, who had possess'd it, and the Protestant Strength should have been an over-match for all the rest.

But I am no director of the Peace; nor am I setting up to direct either the Government here, or the Allies abroad: An Author lately cut out an Office for me, to direct the Ministers of State what they should do, with relation to some publick Affairs. My Service to that Gentleman; as I formerly said, I can let my Betters go before me: While the Government has so wise a Director as himself, they have no occasion for me.

People complain of hard Usage from the Ministers of State, I confess, if I see any hardship in the Usage they talk of, the greatest part lies in the Partiality of it; That some are taken, and others left; but sure, put all sides together, such insulting Government, such reviling Men of Honour and Quality, as well in Office as out of Office, such Lyes, such Scandal, was never born with by any Ministry, or Government in any Age. I desire them to shew me the like, when the Ministry was *Whigg* or when *Tory*: Indeed an Impunity of such a kind, so Universal, tends to bring, not the Persons in the Administration of the Government only, but even Government itself into Contempt; and I must acknowledge the Policy of suffering it, is to me very uncouth.

None of the Writers I speak of, can say that the Law would not make every Paper they write, a seditious Pamphlet; and it cannot be want of Power, that these Men have not much more Reason to complain. One insults the late Lord Treasurer even when dying; another the present, while living and in Power: One flies, like a Bull-Dog, at the Duke of *Marlborough*; the other, *Ditto*, at the Secretary of State; and they cap Scandal, beginning with Noblemen, as the School Boys Cap Verses, by initial Letters.

And do you complain, Gentlemen, that you are not Prosecuted? I'll tell you why; I believe, that if it had been a *Whig Ministry*, you would have been treated worse; *The Reason is plain*, because it ought to have been so; and the present have suffer'd the Liberty that has been taken, to go on unpunish'd, even to a Fault.

Indeed

Indeed the Author of the *Flying-Post*, puts it right in the Notice he takes of it; he does not find fault that a Protestant Printer, or Author, has been unjustly and illegally treated, but that the *Jacobite Popish* Printers have not been serv'd so too: And indeed this Strife will never be well ended, till they are all punish'd. I wish all Protestant Writers to keep out of the Clutches of the Law, and out of the reach of Justice, that they suffer not as Evil-doers; for Scandal, forg'd Letters, false Facts, and unjust Reproach, are not *Protestant Whig-Weapons*; and when a good Cause is defended by bad Weapons, it always Wounds it self rather than the Enemy.

Till now the Cause of the *Whigs* was a Cause of Justice supported by Truth, not by Slander, not by Lies, not by abominable Rage, and ill Language; and while it is so, the Dust will smother it, the Cause it self will suffer by the wrong Methods taken to defend it; and this is the thing, I Quarrel the *Whigs* of our Days for, *viz*, That they stoop to the Methods of the *Tories*, to support the Cause of the *Whigs*.

The *Whigs* in former Days never did thus; they fled to no lies for a Refuge; they scorn'd to make Slander the Weapon of their Defence: They suffer'd Reproach, but return'd none. They *Betray'd* no Friends; they never sold those that confided on them, to buy a *Tory* Interest to support them. My Lord *Russel*, *Algernon Sidney*, or the Earl of *Essex*, these never would first court the Dissenters, to receive them as Patrons, and then give them up to purchase a Party in the House to carry their Cause.

They would never have carried their Party Heats to such an Extremity, as to join with *Jacobites*, to ruin the Ministry, who they own'd to be honest, and put their Country at Stake, to get themselves into Places.

But the *Whigs* of this Day, act upon different Principles, and therefore take differing Measures from what the *Whigs* in those Days took, and I do as these have forsaken the Principles of the *Whigs* that Time, so I wish the Blessing, which follow'd the Cause and Principles of that Time, does not forsake the *Whigs* of this Day.

They then pursu'd the true Interest of their Country, and the Cause of Truth and Liberty; now Liberty governs all, and Personal Quarrels in unbecoming great Affairs of the Kingdom; the Nation must swim, just as the Interest of these, or those, rise and Fall; one single Person is the Object they entirely aim at, and as they Tax him with Ruining; to get in, and keep in, so it is apparent, some will venture the Ruining ALL, to get him out — What a Case is the Nation in all this while? Is it the Spirit of the *Old Whig*? The present Cry is, Protestant Succession and the Pretender! Would the Gentlemen lay their Hands upon their Heads, and answer one Question, as they must answer it every Day to their own Consciences, and as their Consciences must needs answer it, now to them, I would never desire another of them; *The Question is*, Whether they would be equally pleas'd, with the Protestant Succession, as they now say they are, if they thought the Successor would Employ the present Lord Treasurer, or in short, if they thought the Successor would act by this Ministry?

If they should be so honest as to answer this directly in the Negative, as they must, if they speak honestly; what shall we say then to the Rage of this Day, and where will it End, but in the Ruin of the Nation?

N. B. The Author of this Paper being out of Town; by miscarriage of the Post we were oblig'd to omit its Publication on Saturday last.